

# Nature's Web

Issue No. 9

Spring 2008

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## *Spring has Sprung!*

 There are no sheep on Sherkin Island but around now lambs are being born in many parts of the country. It is a real sign that Spring has arrived. In Ireland, Spring also brings St. Patrick's Day, on 17th March. This is the feast day of our patron saint, Saint Patrick, and it is also a national holiday. Saint Patrick has made a couple of things famous in Ireland and around the world. One is Shamrock, which we wear with pride on the feast day. You can learn why Saint Patrick made Shamrock so famous on page 6. The other thing linked to Saint Patrick is the fact that Ireland doesn't have any snakes. On page 5 you can read about the life of snakes and once you have read about some dangerous ones on page 12, you'll be quite happy that Saint Patrick banished them!

With buds about to burst and the grass starting to grow again, Ireland is turning greener by the day. And that's another thing for which we are famous. On Saint Patrick's Day, many places around the world celebrate with us and they show their support by wearing green. Some even go as far as colouring their rivers, such as the Chicago River in March 2005! (*see photo*)



Photo courtesy of Knowledge Seeker

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